

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of this amendment, the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the pending application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4-6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of associating session tickets, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving, by a ticketing authority server, a ticket generation request and information about a client node;

(b) identifying, by the ticketing authority server, a master session ticket ~~associated~~ stored in a storage element and associated with the client node;

(c) generating, by ~~a~~ the ticketing authority server, a derivative session ticket for the client node;

(d) assigning to the derivative session ticket, by the ticketing authority server, one of a plurality of session profile types configured by a policy engine, the assigned session profile type including a session expiration date for the derivative session ticket;

(e) associating, by ~~a~~ the ticketing authority server, the derivative session ticket with the master session ticket; and

(f) storing, by ~~a~~ the ticketing authority server, information about the client node and the derivative session ticket in the storage element.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (b) further comprises identifying a master session ticket for the client node by using the received information to query the storage element.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) comprises generating a master session ticket for the client node.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further comprises assigning, by the ticketing authority server, a session profile type to the derivative session ticket, the session profile type including at least one of: session renewable rights and session failure reconnection rights to the derivative session ticket, the session profile type configured via a policy engine.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step ~~(d)~~(c) further comprises associating, by the ticketing authority server, the derivative session ticket and the master session ticket by storing a reference to the derivative session ticket in the storage element entry for the master session ticket.
6. (Currently Amended) A system for associating session tickets comprising:
a master session ticket;
a derivative session ticket; ~~and~~
a policy engine configuring a plurality of session profile types; and
a ticketing authority server receiving a ticket generation request and information about a client node, identifying the master session ticket associated with the client node, generating the derivative session ticket for the client node, assigning to the derivative session ticket one of the plurality of session profile types, associating the derivative session ticket with the master session ticket, and storing information about the client node and the derivative session ticket in a storage element, wherein the assigned session profile type includes a session expiration date for the derivative session ticket.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the master session ticket further comprises a client identifier.
8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the client identifier comprises a user name.
9. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the client identifier comprises a domain name.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the master session ticket further comprises ~~a session profile type, one of the plurality of the~~ session profile types configured via a policy engine.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the ~~derivative session ticket further comprises a assigned session profile type~~ includes at least one of: session renewable rights and session failure reconnection rights; ~~the session profile type configured via a policy engine.~~

12. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the derivative session ticket further comprises a reference to the master session ticket.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of renewing associated session tickets, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, by a ticket authority server, a session ticket renewal request and a session ticket;

retrieving, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, the session associated with the received session ticket;

renewing, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, a session expiration date of the session;

retrieving, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, ~~the a~~ master session ticket associated with the received session ticket;

renewing, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, ~~the a~~ session expiration date of the master session ticket;

retrieving, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, any derivative ticket associated with the master session ticket; and

renewing, by ~~the a~~-ticket authority server, ~~the a~~ session expiration date of the derivative session ticket associated with the master session ticket.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein step (b) further comprises querying a storage element to retrieve ~~the session information associated with the~~ received session ticket.